

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 34.

2. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 37.

3. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 38.

4. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 39.

Claim 5. (Canceled)

6. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 39.

7. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by

inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 44.

8. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 45.

9. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 46.

Claim 10. (Canceled)

11. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 47.

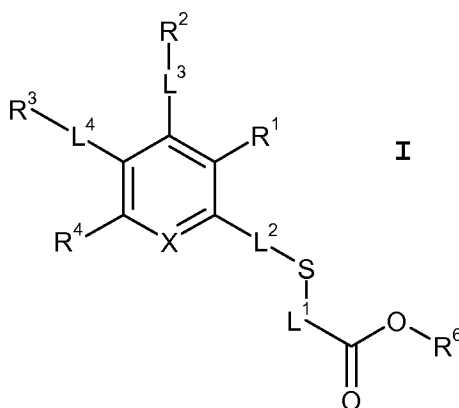
12. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a condition which can be alleviated by inhibition of glyoxalase I, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 48.

Claims 13-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 34 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claims 32-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula I:



or a salt~~[[,]]~~ or solvate ~~or chemically protected form~~ thereof wherein

X is CH;

R¹, R² and R⁴ are H;

R³ is optionally substituted C₅₋₆ aryl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, or C₅₋₇ heterocyclyl

R⁶ is selected from H or optionally substituted C₁₋₇ alkyl, C₅₋₆ aryl and C₁₋₄ alkylene-C₅₋₆ aryl;

L¹ is optionally substituted C₅₋₆ arylene, C₁₋₄ alkylene-C₅₋₆ arylene or -L⁵N(R⁵)L⁶-, or C₁₋₄ alkylene substituted by either C₁₋₇ alkyl or C₅₋₇ aryl, wherein L⁵ and L⁶ are independently selected from optionally substituted C₁₋₄ alkylene and C₅₋₆ arylene, and R⁵ is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl;

L^2 is a single bond; and

L^3 is a single bond; and

L^4 is independently selected from $-L^9YN(OH)C(=O)L^{10}-$ and $-L^9C(=O)N(OH)YL^{10}-$, wherein L^9 and L^{10} are independently selected from optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkylene, C_{5-6} arylene, C_{1-4} alkylene- C_{5-6} arylene and a single bond, wherein Y is NH or a single bond.

Claims 35-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 34 wherein L^4 is a $L^9-C(=O)N(OH)-$ group.

38. (Original) A compound according to claim 37 wherein L^9 is selected from C_{1-4} alkylene and C_{5-6} arylene.

39. (Original) A compound according to claim 37 wherein L^9 is methylene or phenylene.

Claim 40-43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 34 wherein R^3 is optionally substituted C_{5-6} aryl.

45. (Original) A compound according to claim 44 wherein R^3 is phenyl.

46. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 34 wherein R^6 is H or

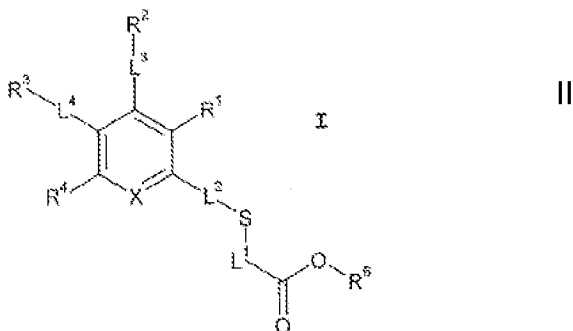
C₁₋₇ alkyl.

47. (Original) A compound according to claim 46 wherein R⁶ is H or C₁₋₃ alkyl.

48. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 34 wherein L¹ is phenylene, -CH(Ph)-, -CH₂-phenylene- or -CH₂C(=O)NH-phenylene-.

Claims 49-50. (Canceled)

51. (new) A compound of formula II:



or a salt or solvate or thereof wherein

X is CH;

R¹, R² and R⁴ are H;

R³ is optionally substituted C₅₋₆ aryl;

L¹ is optionally substituted C₅₋₆ arylene, C₁₋₄ alkylene-C₅₋₆ arylene or -L⁵N(R⁵)L⁶-, or C₁₋₄ alkylene substituted by either C₁₋₇ alkyl or C₅₋₇ aryl, wherein L⁵ and L⁶ are independently selected from optionally substituted C₁₋₄ alkylene and C₅₋₆ arylene, and R⁵ is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl;

L² is a single bond; and

L^3 is a single bond; and

L^4 is $-L^9-N(OH)C(=O)-$, wherein L^9 is independently selected from optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkylene, C_{5-6} arylene, C_{1-4} alkylene- C_{5-6} arylene and a single bond.

52. (new) A compound according to claim 51 wherein R^3 is optionally substituted phenyl.

53. (new) A compound according to claim 52 wherein L^1 is phenylene, $-CH(Ph)-$, $-CH_2$ -phenylene- or $-CH_2C(=O)NH$ -phenylene-.

54. (new) A compound according to claim 52 wherein L^4 is $-L^9-N(OH)C(=O)-$ and L^9 is optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkylene.